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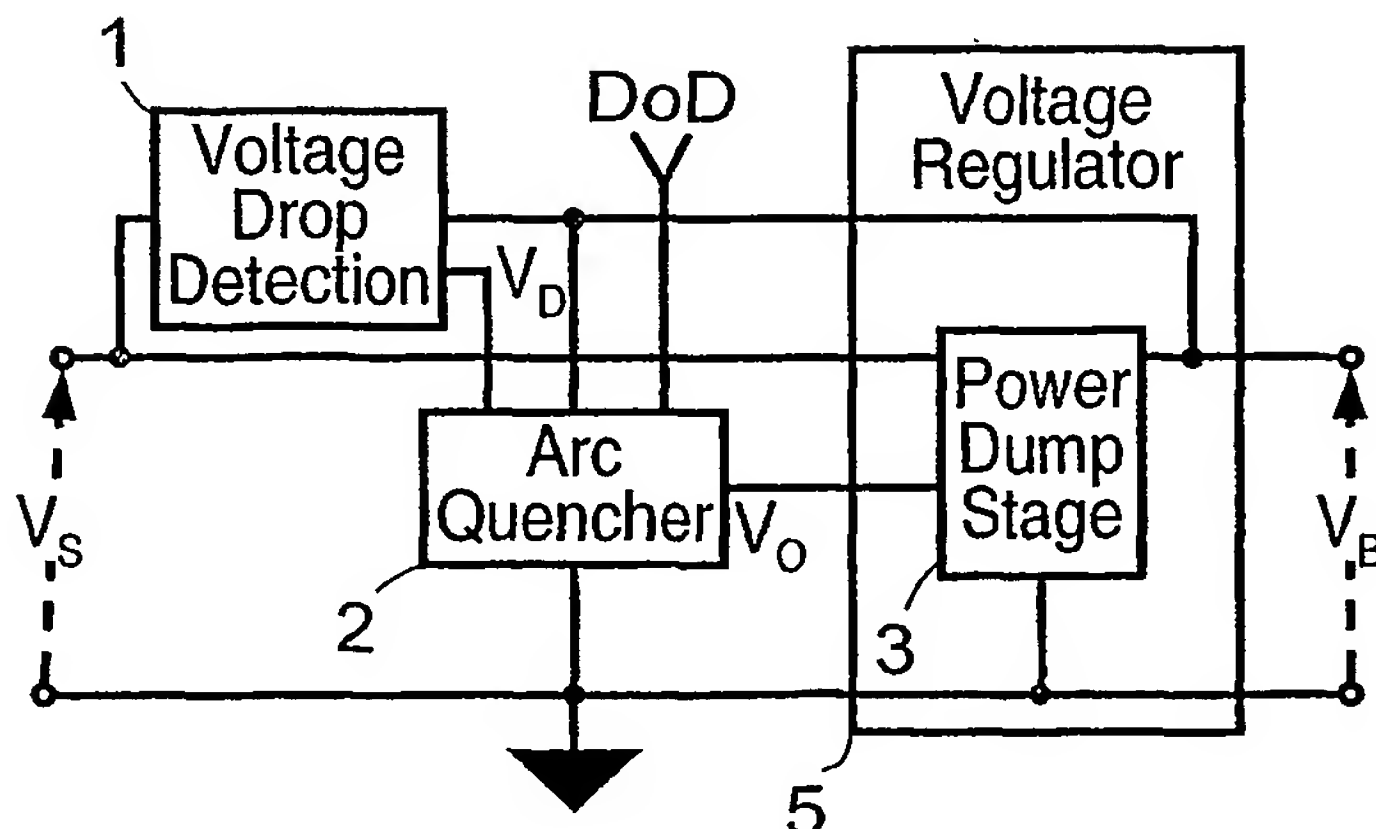
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(54) Title: ARC QUENCHING DEVICE FOR A SOLAR ARRAY



(57) Abstract: A device for protecting against arcing events solar array panels and control equipment supplying a main power bus, the control equipment comprising a regulator (5) for controlling a solar array voltage ( $V_s$ ) and including a power dump stage (3) for shunting the solar array voltage as a function of a control signal, the device comprising a voltage drop detection circuit (1) for generating a voltage drop detection signal ( $V_D$ ) when a voltage drop is detected in the solar array voltage ( $V_s$ ), and an arc-quenching circuit (2) comprising means for generating an output signal ( $V_o$ ) which is applied as the control signal to the power dump stage (3) so as to shunt said solar array voltage ( $V_s$ ) when a voltage drop is detected by said voltage drop detection circuit.